

Appl. No.: 09/424,940  
Reply to Final Office Action dated July 28, 2004

Patent  
48341-00012

### **Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Please amend Claims 22, 26, and 27 to read as follows:

#### **Listing of Claims**

Claims 1-21. (CANCELED)

22. (AMENDED) A method for detecting cancer in a subject comprising:  
~~identifying the association between a fibrinogen degradation product (FDP) and common oncogenic proteolytic processes in said subject;~~ contacting a biological sample obtained from said subject with a monoclonal antibody that binds to a fibrinogen degradation product (FDP) epitope of the beta chain of fibrinogen having an amino acid sequence corresponding to SEQ ID NO 1; and determining the presence or absence of said FDP ~~using an enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay~~, wherein fibrin, fibrinogen and fibrinogen fragments D and ~~B-E~~ are not detected.

23. (CANCELED)

24. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 22 wherein said monoclonal antibody is generated using an immunogen prepared from a peptide have an amino acid sequence corresponding to SEQ ID No. 2.

25. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 22 wherein said subject is a mammal.

26. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 25 wherein said mammal is a human.

27. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 22 wherein said biological sample is selected from the group consisting of blood, serum, plasma, urine, cervical secretions, bronchial aspirates, sputum, saliva, feces, synovial fluid and cerebrospinal fluid.